

Manchester UMC Leadership Board Agenda
September 25, 2022
Room 141 and Zoom, 3-5pm

Secretary: Kristi and George

Attendance: In-person: Beth Hunyar, Susanne Mertens, Rob Peterson, Kristi Koehl, Kim Taylor West, June Van Klaveren, George Mogannam, Dave Divjak, Ali Fields, John Higdon, Sue Belval, Rev. Jim Peich, Rev. Andy Bryan
Zoom: Jim Lange

Absent: Jeff Haupt, Linda Horodenski, Izzy Massey, Rev. Phil Estes

Visitors on Zoom: John Himpel

- Call to Order and Welcome
 - Devotional Andy Bryan led devotional
 - Joys and Concerns shared
- Old Business
 - Approve August '22 Meeting Minutes (V) – Kim Taylor West motioned to approve, Rob Peterson seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Congregational Input; No one scheduled
- Department Updates
 - 3:20 Lead Pastor Update (Pastor Andy)
 - Lots of positive things are happening; 29 new members joined the church this weekend, our children's choirs are singing again during Worship, Wednesday meals have been a success. However, staff continues to feel challenged by the volume of activity. Words of encouragement from the Board/Congregation are appreciated.
 - Century Three Update – The Connectionalism survey has been sent out to approximately 25% of the congregation. The survey asks questions re: congregational knowledge of our Mission, Vision, & Welcome statement. The purpose is to use this info as a baseline to determine what actions need to be taken, with the ultimate goal of every member being able to speak to these statements and share them more broadly. Future surveys will be sent out with targeted questions, as well as a place to provide general feedback.
 - Walk Justly Conference Update – We are still lagging where we want to be in terms of registrations. We are working multiple communications strategies but need help publicizing the conference. Board members are also encouraged to attend.
 - Charge Conference (January '23)– The Winter conference is a date change from Fall conference; We are waiting for instruction re: to how timing will work. Paperwork will be due in December, which provides a challenge for our staff who will be heavily involved with Advent during this timeframe.
 - Nominations Update- Kristi Koehl will serve as Chair and John Higdon will serve as Lay Leader, pending Charge Conference

approval. Ali Fields will be leaving the board as of 12/31. Nominations for the Board, Endowment Committee, Missions Team, Nominations Board, and Annual Conference Delegates are being reviewed now, and once communications are complete, a full list will be provided to the Board.

- Parsonage House Sale Update (R) – The parsonage house sold above asking price, and the sale will be complete pending physical inspections. Assets must be used towards Capital needs, i.e. to pay down principal of debt. Anticipated Closing Date is 10/17.
 - Jurisdictional Conference (Southcentral) will be held in Houston, TX in November. The Primary purpose of the conference will be to elect new bishops. Andy Bryan will be in attendance. The General Conference has been postponed until 2024. The Judicial Council is considering whether or not the 2024 conference will replace the postponed 2020 conference, or if it is a new conference. This is significant, as voting can take up a large amount of time during the conference.
- Operations and Generosity (Rob Peterson presenting for Pastor Phil)
 - Actual revenue is under the budgeted quantity for operating at this current point
 - Operating expenses are under budgeted quantity by ~\$1,000
 - August saw a one-time individual donation of ~\$30,000
 - Pending Cares Act revenue totaling ~\$152,807 from Employee Retention Credits, to be distributed as follows: \$116,061 – General Fund; \$36,747 – Circle of Friends.
 - HVAC and Building Debt generosity are under budget by ~\$100,000
 - Kristi asked if cash reserves are replenished after being drawn from, Rob clarified that cash reserves are only replenished if there is excess revenue to replenish with
 - COF is covering the cost for resurfacing the playground and replacing the edging around the garden
 - Bids requested to replace the railroad ties that are currently in use
 - -The board was made aware of an inquiry into potential volunteer groups to help with grounds work this fall. Phil will schedule the grounds team for fall maintenance.
 - -Generosity team is planning a 4th quarter matching gift campaign with the hope of covering operations deficit
 - -Sue Belval announced that Kevin McBeth sent a letter to the past patrons of the Concert Series saying that there were sufficient funds for this year's (2022-2023) Concert Series. He suggested the patrons should consider giving their chosen amounts to the general operating fund of Manchester UMC instead.
 - Ministry and Leadership (Pastor Jim)
 - Receptionist position has been filled by Lisa Melton.
 - Part-time Director of Congregational Care has been filled by MaryBeth Hartenstein as of 09/25/22, and she was introduced to the Manchester UMC Stephen Ministers team
 - Preschool front desk interviews are in-process
 - Preschool teacher position and subs are still available

- Ministry team gathered for annual retreat, team is excited for what the future holds
- Jasmine Flowers has been hired as the Children's Ministry intern! Funds for this are provided by a conference grant
- The college intern program is being advertised to local seminaries, colleges and at the conference level
- Communications team is still working on updating the website
- Programs team is working on drafting budget proposals for next fiscal year
- M&M's was lifted up as a positive highlight for the meeting, over 160 people have been in attendance so far!
- Ali is in discussion with local sign language programs about arranging an internship for ASL students to meet certificate hours
- Manchester UMC partnered with 10 other UM churches for a booth at Tower Grove Pride
- The board was made aware of an interfaith partnership luncheon that is in early planning stages
- Manchester Athletic Association was contacted as a follow-up to current business, no response but the outlook is still hopeful
- (No ministry highlight this month)
- Sue B. motioned to enter closed session to discuss personnel and budget, Kristi K. seconded, motion passed.
- Kim Taylor West motioned to leave closed session, Sue B. seconded, motion passed.
- New Business:
 - Board discussion without staff to complete District Consultation Forms due Dec. 1, 2022 for Pastors Andy and Jim
 - Strong consensus to retain both pastors for a multitude of positive reasons
- Closing devotion by Jim L
- Closing prayer by Dave D.
- Meeting Adjourned